Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

Sitka Area Office 304 Lake Street, Room 103 Sitka, AK 99835



Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526 www.adfg.alaska.gov

Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: August 24, 2021

CONTACT: Aaron Dupuis Sitka Area Management Biologist Aaron.dupuis@alaska.gov (907) 747-6688

CRAWFISH INLET TERMINAL HARVEST AREA SALMON PURSE SEINE FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The following areas will be open to purse seining from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Sunday, Thursday, and Friday of each week from Thursday, August 26, through Friday, September 24, 2021:

West Crawfish Inlet: will be open north and east of a line from $56^{\circ}49.10'$ N lat, $135^{\circ}10.00'$ W long to $56^{\circ}49.54'$ N lat, $135^{\circ}10.53'$ W long with the following restrictions:

West Crawfish Head: will be closed north of 56°50.40′ N lat;

<u>Shamrock Bay</u>: all waters will be open. No anadromous waters restrictions will be in effect for Lake Ekaterina Outlet Stream (all freshwaters and stream channels remain closed).

Crawfish Inlet Terminal Harvest Area (THA): will be open east of a line from 56°45.34′ N lat, 135°11.05′ W long to 56°44.87′ N lat, 135°11.05′ W long with the following restrictions:

<u>Crawfish Inlet</u>: will be closed north of a line from 56°47.41′ N lat, 135°06.61′ W long to 56°47.36′ N lat, 135°07.13′ W long;

<u>Crawfish Inlet salmon streams</u>: no restrictions will be in effect for Crawfish Inlet salmon streams (all freshwaters and stream channels remain closed).

Crawfish Inlet THA: NSRAA has forecasted a run of 1,920,000 chum salmon to the Crawfish Inlet THA. NSRAA anticipates it will have achieved their cost recovery goal with a harvest of 690,000 chum salmon by Wednesday, August 25. Approximately 114,500 chum salmon have been harvested in the common property troll fishery. To minimize potential straying of hatchery produced chum salmon and maintain quality, the department is opening a small portion of West Crawfish Inlet to common property purse seine fishing. This area should have a minimal impact on wild stock salmon returning to West Crawfish Inlet as wild stock pink and chum salmon are typically in the stream based on normal run timing and observations from recent aerial surveys of the area. It is important for seine vessels to correctly report harvest location during these openings, especially if areas outside Crawfish Inlet and West Crawfish Inlet are fished prior to landing harvested fish: West Crawfish Inlet is statistical area 113-32 and Crawfish Inlet THA is statistical area 113-33.

<u>Chinook Salmon Landing Restrictions</u>: Chinook salmon 28 inches or greater in length may NOT be retained and Chinook salmon less than 28 inches may be retained but not sold.

Fishermen and processors are reminded that all salmon, including steelhead, commercially harvested but retained for personal use and not sold, must be reported on fish tickets at the time of delivery.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S5621.

Under Alaska's Health Advisories 1, 2, 3, and 4, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Advisories. COVID-19 Health Advisories may be found here: https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/.

Advisory Announcement web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220